

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 103687
ORIGIN NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 PM-05 NSC-05
SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 ACDA-12
A-01 SY-05 CPR-01 /102 R

DRAFTED BY NEA/AFN:JKBISHOP:MAR
APPROVED BY P:DNEWSOM
NEA:NAVELIOTES
NSC:WQUANDT
S/S: RCASTRODALE
-----022085 222058Z /63

P 221842Z APR 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY RABAT PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY ALGIERS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY MADRID PRIORITY
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

S E C R E T STATE 103687

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SS, MASS, MO, MR. AG, FR, SP, PEPR

SUBJECT: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S MEETING WITH MOROCCAN
AMBASSADOR BENGELLOUN

REFS: (A) RABAT 2222 (NOTAL); (B) RABAT 2248 (NOTAL)

1. SUMMARY: IN MEETING WITH NEWSOM, AND IN SUBSEQUENT
TALK WITH QUANDT, BENGELLOUN WAS INFORMED THAT PRESIDENT'S
HEAVY SCHEDULE LIKELY PRECLUDE MAY MEETING REQUESTED BY
HASSAN. BENGELLOUN SAID THAT IN THAT CASE KING WILL NOT
ATTEND UN DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. IN BRIEF DISCUSSION ON
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 STATE 103687

MOROCCAN USE OF U.S. ARMS, BENGELLOUN WAS TOLD BOUCETTA'S
APRIL 14 "ASSURANCES" TO AMBASSADOR ANDERSON WOULD NOT BE
HELPFUL IN DEALING WITH CONGRESS. NEWSOM EMPHASIZED
CONGRESS' CURRENT SERIOUS CONCERN WITH USE OF AMERICAN
WEAPONS OUTSIDE BORDERS OF RECIPIENT STATES. VELIOTES
STRESSED DESIRABILITY OF WITHDRAWING F-5S FROM SAHARA AND
MAURITANIA. END SUMMARY.

2. MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR BENGELLOUN CALLED APRIL 20 AT HIS REQUEST ON UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM. HE EXPRESSED FIRST KING HASSAN'S PLEASURE AT NEWSOM'S APPOINTMENT AND THEN RAISED KING'S PROPOSED VISIT, REFERRING TO FONMIN BOUCETTA'S APRIL 14 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR ANDERSON. BENGELLOUN

EXPLAINED THAT KING WILL COME TO U.S. ONLY IF PRESIDENT ABLE TO RECEIVE HIM FOR WORKING VISIT OF DAY AND A HALF.

3. RESPONDING, NEWSOM ASSURED BENGELLOUN WHITE HOUSE IS INFORMED OF KING'S DESIRE VISIT. HE EXPLAINED PRESIDENT WILL BE VERY BUSY IN MAY 20-30 TIME FRAME WITH DOMESTIC RESPONSIBILITIES AND AS HOST FOR NATO SUMMIT. MOREOVER, AT LEAST EIGHT CHIEFS OF STATE AND ELEVEN HEADS OF GOVERNMENT ALREADY HAVE ANNOUNCED PLANS TO ATTEND DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. IF IT INDEED PROVED IMPOSSIBLE FOR PRESIDENT TO RECEIVE HASSAN IN MAY, NEWSOM SAID HE HOPED A MEETING COULD BE ARRANGED AT SOME OTHER TIME, AS HE CONSIDERED DIRECT COMMUNICATION DESIRABLE. AS THIS PHASE OF DISCUSSION CONCLUDED, BENGELLOUN MENTIONED THAT AMONG MOTIVES PROMPTING HASSAN TO PROPOSE AN AMERICAN VISIT WAS KING'S BELIEF THAT SADAT MIGHT BE COMING TO NEW YORK FOR THE DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE. NEWSOM REMINDED BENGELLOUN IN PASSING THAT KING HAD BEEN INVITED MANY TIMES TO U.S.

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 STATE 103687

4. THERE WAS INSUFFICIENT TIME FOR THOROUGH DISCUSSION OF MOROCCO'S USE OF AMERICAN WEAPONS, BUT SEVERAL IMPORTANT POINTS WERE MADE. NEWSOM REMINDED BENGELLOUN THAT GENERAL TOPIC OF THE USE OF AMERICAN ARMS OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF RECIPIENT STATES CURRENTLY IS A VERY LIVELY ONE IN WASHINGTON. HE EXPLAINED THAT DISCUSSIONS ON THIS TOPIC INITIATED BY USG WITH GOM SHOULD BE SEEN IN CONTEXT OF THIS GENERAL CONCERN, NOT BECAUSE USG HAS DOWNGRADED GREAT IMPORTANCE IT PLACES ON RELATIONS WITH MOROCCO. USG WISHES AVOID RESTRICTIVE LEGISLATION WHICH COULD RESULT FROM CONGRESSIONAL DISCONTENT.

5. VELIOTES ADDED THAT BOUCETTA'S STATEMENT TO ANDERSON (REF B) THAT HE DID NOT KNOW IF THERE CURRENTLY WERE F-5S IN SAHARA AND MAURITANIA WOULD NOT SATISFY THOSE WITHIN CONGRESS WHO WOULD WANT TO KNOW WHAT RESPONSE DEPARTMENT HAD RECEIVED IN DISCUSSIONS WITH GOM ON WITHDRAWAL OF THESE AIRCRAFT. AS MEETING CONCLUDED NEWSOM TOLD BENGELLOUN HE WOULD LOOK PERSONALLY AT ISSUES DISCUSSED AND MEET WITH HIM AGAIN FOR MORE DETAILED EXCHANGE. BENGELLOUN SAID GOM WANTED CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF USG ATTITUDE. STATING USG EARLIER HAD MADE DEMARCHES IN MADRID URGING THE

SPANISH TO NEGOTIATE WITH MOROCCO THE FUTURE OF SPANISH SAHARA, AND IN 1975 HAD VOTED FOR RESOLUTION BRAVO WHILE ABSTAINING ON RESOLUTION ALPHA AT UNGA, BENGELLOUN INDICATED HE DID NOT BELIEVE CURRENT PROBLEM ORIGINATES WITH CONGRESS, WHERE HE SAID HE IS CONFIDENT THAT MOROCCO WOULD WIN A MAJORITY IF A VOTE WERE HELD.

6. AS HE WAS ESCORTED TO HIS CAR BY VELIOTES, BENGELLOUN CLAIMED MOROCCO HAS SITUATION IN THE SAHARA AND MAURITANIA UNDER CONTROL, AND HE REPEATED THE KING'S STATEMENT THAT THE OV-10 AND COBRA ARE NOT NEEDED FOR USE IN THESE AREAS. CITING OULD DADDAH'S RECENT VISIT TO TRIPOLI, HE CONTENDED THAT ALGERIA'S ALLIES ARE LOSING INTEREST IN SUPPORTING BOUMEDIENE. BLAMING ALGERIA FOR ABORTING OAU
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 04 STATE 103687

CONSIDERATION OF THE SAHARA CONFLICT, BENGELLOUN PREDICTED ISSUE NEXT WILL ARISE AT THE UN, WHERE MOROCCO HOPES TO HAVE U.S. SUPPORT. BENGELLOUN MENTIONED PARENTHETICALLY THAT MOROCCO NOW HAS 10,000 TROOPS SERVING IN MAURITANIA. VELIOTES REITERATED THE DESIRABILITY OF WITHDRAWING THE F-5 AIRCRAFT FROM THE SAHARA AND MAURITANIA TO PROTECT TRADITIONAL FMS PROGRAM AGAINST POSSIBLE CONGRESSIONAL SUSPENSION.

7. ON APRIL 21, BENGELLOUN CALLED ON QUANDT AT NSC TO PRESS REQUEST THAT PRESIDENT MEET WITH HASSAN. QUANDT INDICATED PRESIDENT'S HEAVY SCHEDULE DURING MAY PROBABLY WOULD MAKE IT IMPOSSIBLE TO ARRANGE DESIRED MEETING.

8. IT WAS AGREED THAT, ONCE WE HAVE PRESIDENT'S RESPONSE TO KING'S LETTER, UNDER SECRETARY AND BENGELLOUN WOULD MEET AGAIN FOR FULLER DISCUSSION.

CHRISTOPHER

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS, SMALL ARMS, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, AMBASSADORS, MILITARY SALES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE103687
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: JKBISHOP:MAR
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780172-1119
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780427/aaaaawkf.tel
Line Count: 155
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 1a0954a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN NEA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 RABAT 2222, 78 RABAT 2248
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2877871
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNDER SECRETARY NEWSOM'S MEETING WITH MOROCCAN AMBASSADOR BENGELLOUN
TAGS: MASS, PEPR, SS, MO, MR, AG, FR, SP
To: RABAT
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/1a0954a9-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014